

MARKED-UP COPY OF THE CLAIMS**CLAIMS:**

1. A molded clip comprising an upper jaw and a lower jaw generally coextensive therewith, each said jaw having a forward end and a rearward end axially opposed thereto; hinge means interconnecting said rearward ends to permit said jaws to rotate between a closed position in which said jaws are in mutually confronting relationship and an open position; a cooperating latch element disposed at said forward end of each of said jaws for releasably latching said jaws in said closed position; characterized wherein said hinge means comprises a hinge bearing disposed at the rearward end of said jaws, said hinge bearing comprising a pair of laterally spaced apart, rearwardly extending lower bearing portions to define a passage therebetween, and at least one rearwardly extending upper bearing portion disposed in superior, spaced apart relation to said lower portions; mutually confronting surfaces of said portions together defining a transversely extending gudgeon opening and a rearwardly open throat of restricted diameter in comparison to that of said gudgeon opening communicating with said passage and said gudgeon opening; said hinge means further comprising a tab extending rearwardly from the rearward end of the lower of said jaws and a hinge element receivable in said gudgeon opening for rotation therein, said hinge element and said throat being dimensioned to permit the passage of the hinge element therethrough under the influence of a biasing force.
2. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 wherein said pair of lower bearing portions projects rearwardly beyond said at least one upper bearing portion to form an abutment stop limiting the travel of said lower jaw towards an open position.
3. A molded clip as defined in Claim 2 wherein said lower bearing portions are connected at their distal ends by a bight.
4. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 wherein said upper jaw has a channel opening closed at said rearward end by a rear wall from which said hinge bearing is mounted, and where a portal is provided in said rear wall communicating with said passage and extending upwardly to adjacent said at least one upper portion, but not therebeyond.
- 5.(amended) A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 wherein said jaws are provided adjacent their rearward ends with cooperating shoulder means independent of said hinge bearing to restrict relative axial movement of said jaws under reactive forces created by the closure of said jaws about an object.
6. A molded clip as defined in Claim 3 further comprising a clip accessory detachably mounted on said bight.
7. A molded clip as defined in Claim 6 wherein said accessory is rotatably mounted on said bight so as to be movable between a first position wherein it overlays a portion of said clip and a second position

wherein it extends generally axially therefrom.

8. A molded clip as defined in Claim 7 wherein said accessory is a scoop.
9. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 wherein said top wall is provided with a pair of axially spaced apart slots, and further comprising a handle detachably mounted in said slots to arch therebetween.
10. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 wherein said upper jaw has a channel opening therealong open at the axial end thereof at which said latch elements are disposed.
11. A molded clip as defined in Claim 10 wherein the lower jaw of said clip has a pair of ribs in back to back disposition, and said hinge permits said lower jaw to be oriented whereby either of said ribs may be positioned in confronting relation with said upper jaw.
12. A molded clip as defined in Claim 11 wherein one only of said ribs has a cooperating latch element associated therewith.
13. A molded clip as defined in Claim 11 wherein upper bearing portion is axially furcated.
14. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 further comprising a finger rigidly joined to one of said jaws at a root to define therewith with said jaw an elongated slot of diminishing width on approach to the root, and wherein a cutting blade is mounted within said slot.
15. A molded clip as defined in Claim 1 further comprising a finger resiliently mounted to one of said jaws to form a hook for retaining said clip on a container.